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Information of interest to the trade  
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# LABOR NEWS SERVICE

## WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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WILLIAM GREEN, President

WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 1942

GEORGE MEANY, Secretary-Treasurer

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## FACING THE FACTS

With PHILIP PEARL

As disquieting evidence piles up of dangerous Fascist influences right here within America, the nation can take heart in the realization that labor stands united for vigorous and determined resistance to the forces of reaction.

The best news for America and the worst news for Hitler in many a month came out of Pittsburgh on April 7 when William Green and Philip Murray stood together on a public platform before a meeting audience of AFL and CIO workers and pledged the organized workers of America to united action for victory.

No Axis propaganda, no sinister Fifth Column, can penetrate the united front of millions of stalwart, loyal American workers these leaders represent.

In the extra labor movement today there is but one Fascist shadow and that is cast by the hazy and irresponsible John L. Lewis, who is still hovering around, silent and remote and vengeful. But this bird of ill-omen, the scourge of the labor movement, is no longer a threat. It is in no way, in fact, despised by the CIO just as much as by the AFL.

### A New Way of Thought

No labor fears the hard tasks and responsibilities of war, the workers of America must condition themselves to a new way of thinking.

Attempts have been made and are still in full swing to rob American workers of their basic rights in the plan of the war emergency. These are doomed to failure. Already, the labor-laborers in Congress are in retreat. President Roosevelt will not permit their campaign to complete ruin by announcing a defeat, clear-cut labor program.

Our Government will give full protection to the maintenance of a free and untrammeled labor movement.

Our Government will not deprive workers of the fundamental right to strike, because the strike is the basis of the worker's freedom of action of that right voluntarily for the duration of the war.

Our Government will maintain the standard of the 40-hour week which does not limit war production but calls for the payment of overtime for work in excess of forty hours.

At the same time, our Government will take drastic moves to control the cost of living and to curb excess profits.

The question then comes up as to what is to be done, if anything, about wages. A strong feeling prevails among the workers that they deserve even more than their belt and be prepared to offer hardships until the war is won.

Indiscriminate wage increases just don't fit into the picture.

### The Answer Way

What is the answer? Certainly it is not inflexible wage-freezing. That would result only in the loss of the worker's right to strike and the breaking of bargaining, upon which the American system of employer-employee relationships is based.

It would bring about a form of Governmental wage-fixing comparable to Hitler's method.

No wage-freezing is not the American solution of this problem. America must remain the land of opportunity. To wipe out opportunity for advancement by wage-freezing would be to destroy the very thing upon which the American system is based.

It seems to us that the answer to this question is that the worker is the wage earner. We are convinced that voluntary action offers the best chance of success.

As we said before, the workers of America must condition themselves to a new way of thinking. They must understand that their own welfare and the welfare of the nation are one and the same. They must expect not to make more, but to make less from their daily toil.

The trade unions can help in this conditioning program. They can be the driving force in the industry-wide wage-fixing program, as some have been.

The door must be opened to the worker's right to strike. It is the adjustment of wages levels which alone should maintain standards.

Workers who are unwilling to accept the responsibility of their own welfare should not be allowed to work. It is not the time to ask for more.

Under such a voluntary system, if price and profit can be stabilized, the urgency for higher wages will not arise.

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# Labor and The War—Business and Industry

(Following are excerpts from the Federal Security Administrator's radio address at the joint AFL-CIO rally at Pittsburgh.)

The workers of America are set to win this war.

Despite every effort made by the enemy to breed confusion and distrust among the workers of America, the workers of America are united. They are united in their determination to win this war. They are united in their determination to win this war.

This meeting tonight is magnificent testimony to the fact that American labor is united in its determination to win this war. It is a proof of the strength of a high order. It throws the challenges in the teeth of those who said it could not be done.

It has been done. I congratulate you. Your Government is heartened and all men of good will are encouraged.

Mad Millions of Japan.

Four months ago our country declared war on Germany and Japan. The American people have met this war with sacrifice and resolution. But we are asked by a few members of the Congress to carry on a war against labor, against the American people, against the very thing upon which our country is based. We are asked to carry on a war against the very thing upon which our country is based.

Many who are not themselves hostile to labor are disturbed and confused by the reckless arguments of the few who have been trying to create dissension in America.

I think it is time we examined the facts.

What is labor's record since Pearl Harbor?

Labor has at the outset, voluntarily accepted the only weapon for economic self-defense that has ever been known—the right to strike.

Justice Holmes once called the right to strike democracy's safety valve. Every union man knows the right has been in use in our country since the struggle to achieve industrial democracy.

By voluntarily waiving the right to strike, organized labor has assured the nation of uninterrupted production of war materials as far as labor is concerned. It has shown the nation that it is the kind of a strike that is the challenge of the dictators—that the people of a democracy, when the need is clear, can organize self-discipline with the strength of the war effort has been the loyalty and patriotism of the American workman beyond all doubt.

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While the workers are loyally putting their weight in the war effort we are asked to carry on a war against labor, against the very thing upon which our country is based. We are asked to carry on a war against the very thing upon which our country is based.

These indictments are part of a campaign to arouse antagonism based on confusion and distrust. They are part of a campaign to arouse antagonism based on confusion and distrust. They are part of a campaign to arouse antagonism based on confusion and distrust.

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What is the truth about these accusations?

Despite the clear evidence that labor is accused of war stoppage while the country is under attack. The accusation is false.

Since the pledge was made that labor would not strike during the war, the strike has been a thing of the past. Even unauthorized strikes have been rare as far as the war effort is concerned.

In the last few months, the War Labor Board reports, only two one-day strikes occurred. In the last few months, the War Labor Board reports, only two one-day strikes occurred. In the last few months, the War Labor Board reports, only two one-day strikes occurred.

Through the strike, ninety-nine and one-half percent of all the workers in war production were kept at their jobs without striking even for a day. In a country of sixty million working population that record for practical purposes can be called a record of unbroken loyalty and patriotism.

The fact is, millions at the present time are working far more than 40 hours every week with the full approval of their unions.

Anti-labor propaganda, to the contrary, is a thing of the past. Those who are not familiar with industrial equipment, that a worker on a 40-hour week is

## A Late for Saturday Night

Washington, D. C.—Make a date with your radio for Saturday night, April 18, at 10:15 P.M. Eastern War Time; for that's when the American Federation of Labor is launching its new radio program "Labor for Victory" over a nationwide NBC network.

This outstanding feature of the initial broadcast will be an interview between Under-Secretary of War Robert Patterson and William Green, President of the American Federation of Labor.

The purpose of this new radio series is to bring home the truth to the American people about American workers and their participation in the nation's war.

For that reason, it is most important that the AFL offer the largest possible audience. The program will be offered by NBC to all stations on its Red Network as a regular feature. Get in touch with your local NBC station and make sure they carry this all-important program.

## Texas AFL Starts Radio Program;

Broadcasts Cover Entire State

Austin, Texas.—The Texas State Federation of Labor does not believe in the policy of ignoring the falsehoods and innuendos of anti-labor propaganda in their efforts to defame labor in the state.

On the contrary, the Federation takes the offensive and inaugurates a radio program through 19 stations of the Texas Quality Network covering all sections of the state.

The broadcast consists of a few minutes of the facts about the organized labor.

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## Kennedy Anti-Labor Proposals;

Roosevelt for Congress; New Mainpower Plan Drafted

Washington, D. C.—President Roosevelt is expected to tell Congress during the next few days that he has approved a new restrictive labor legislation because such action badly impedes America's war effort.

At the same time, the President plans to submit a sweeping program for manpower mobilization which would unify all existing government efforts to get the most out of the war effort.

The President also has under consideration plans to stabilize prices, profits and wages for the duration of the war. This was emphasized by White House spokesmen.

House Speaker Charles McNary also is expected to introduce legislation to prevent restrictive labor legislation because such action badly impedes America's war effort.

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